

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION

Please read the instructions before completing this form. For additional forms or assistance in completing this form, contact your agency's Paperwork Clearance Officer. Send two copies of this form, the collection instrument to be reviewed, the Supporting Statement and any additional documentation to: **Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW Washington, DC 20503.**

1. Agency/Subagency originating request United States Environmental Protection Agency	2. OMB control number b. G None a. _____ - _____ _____
3. Type of information collection (<i>check one</i>) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New collection b. G Revision of a currently approved collection c. G Extension of a currently approved collection d. G Reinstatement, without change , of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired e. G Reinstatement, with change , of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired f. G Existing collection in use without an OMB control number <i>For b-f, note item A2 of Supporting Statement Instructions</i>	4. Type of review requested (<i>check one</i>) a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular b. G Emergency - Approval requested by: ____/____/____ c. G Delegated 5. Small entities Will this information collection have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities? G Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No 6. Requested expiration date a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Three years from approval date b. G Other Specify: ____/____/____
7. Title Superfund PRP Oversight Reform Survey	
8. Agency form number(s) EPA ICR # 2037.1	
9. Keywords Superfund. CERCLA. Oversight Costs.	

10. Abstract

This information collection is for a survey of potentially responsible parties (PRPs) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The survey respondents will be parties that did work during FY00 under settlement agreements with EPA that provide for payment of oversight costs. The survey will be administered to all of the approximately 230 potential respondents that are willing to voluntarily participate. The information collected from this survey will be used in a broader evaluation of the PRP Oversight Reform's overall effectiveness.

The PRP Oversight Reform, which was announced in October 1995, was originally intended to encourage and reward cooperative PRPs by reducing EPA oversight activities at sites where quality work was being performed by those PRPs. Early implementation of the reform focused on increasing communication, cooperation, and early planning with capable and cooperative PRPs in order to reduce oversight activities and the associated oversight costs. EPA ultimately concluded, however, that it could not define a baseline against which reductions in oversight costs could be measured because the appropriate level of oversight can vary greatly both from site to site, and from year to year at a given site and by different phases of the site study and cleanup design and implementation at a site. Thus, while efficiency and, where appropriate, reduction of oversight costs remain important elements of the reform, EPA no longer intends to attempt to quantify cost savings associated with the reform at the national level.

Starting in FY98, the reform was reoriented to focus on improving working relationships with PRPs by improving communication of oversight expectations, identifying opportunities to improve oversight efficiencies, and improving billing practices. A new PRP oversight guidance, the "Interim Guidance on Implementing the Superfund Administrative Reform on PRP Oversight," was issued in May 2000. The guidance places particular emphasis on regular communication with PRPs about oversight matters, careful consideration of the associated costs being charged to PRPs, and timely billing. The survey addresses the effectiveness of the PRP Oversight Reform in meeting these goals.

The information collection will involve 210 respondents at \$21,848.

11. Affected public (Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X")

- a. ☒ Individuals or households d. ☐ Farms
b. ☒ Business or other for-profit e. ☐ Federal Government
c. ☐ Not-for-profit institutions f. ☐ State, Local or Tribal Government

12. Obligation to respond (Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X")

- a. ☐ Voluntary
b. ☒ Required to obtain or retain benefits
c. ☒ Mandatory

13. Annual reporting and recordkeeping hour burden

a. Number of respondents 210

b. Total annual responses One-time Collection

—

1. Percentage of these responses
collected electronically 90 %

c. Total hours requested 682

d. Current OMB inventory 0

e. Difference 682

f. Explanation of difference

1. Program Change New Collection

2. Adjustment _____

14. Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden (in thousands of dollars)

a. Total annualized capital/startup costs \$0

b. Total annual costs (O&M) \$0

c. Total annualized cost requested \$0

d. Current OMB inventory NA

e. Difference NA

f. Explanation of difference

1. Program change _____

2. Adjustment _____

<p>15. Purpose of information collection (<i>Mark Primary With "P" and all others that apply with "X"</i>)</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Application for benefits e. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program planning or management</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program evaluation f. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> General purpose statistics g. <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory or compliance</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Audit</p>	<p>16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting (<i>check all that apply</i>)</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recordkeeping b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Third party disclosure</p> <p>c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting</p> <p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On occasion 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Weekly 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monthly</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quarterly 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Semi-annually 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annually</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biannually 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) <u>One-time</u></p>
<p>17. Statistical methods</p> <p>Does this information collection employ statistical methods?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>18. Agency contact (<i>person who can best answer questions regarding the content of this submission</i>)</p> <p>Name: <u>Bruce Pumphrey</u></p> <p>Phone: <u>(202) 564-6076</u></p>

19. Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

On behalf of this Federal agency, I certify that the collection of information encompassed by this request complies with 5 CFR 1320.9.

NOTE: The text of 5 CFR 1320.9, and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3), appear at the end of the instructions. *The certification is to be made with reference to those regulatory provisions as set forth in the instructions.*

The following is a summary of the topics, regarding the proposed collection of information, that the certification covers:

- (a) It is necessary for the proper performance of agency functions;
- (b) It avoids unnecessary duplication;
- (c) It reduces burden on small entities;
- (d) It uses plain, coherent, and unambiguous terminology that is understandable to respondents;
- (e) Its implementation will be consistent and compatible with current reporting and recordkeeping practices;
- (f) It indicates the retention periods for recordkeeping requirements;
- (g) It informs respondents of the information called for under 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3):
 - (I) Why the information is being collected;
 - (ii) Use of information;
 - (iii) Burden estimate;
 - (iv) Nature of response (voluntary, required for a benefit, or mandatory);
 - (v) Nature and extent of confidentiality; and
 - (vi) Need to display currently valid OMB control number;
- (h) It was developed by an office that has planned and allocated resources for the efficient and effective management and use of the information to be collected (see note in Item 19 of the instructions);
- (I) It uses effective and efficient statistical survey methodology; and
- (j) It makes appropriate use of information technology.

If you are unable to certify compliance with any of these provisions, identify the item below and explain the reason in Item 18 of the Supporting Statement.

Signature of Program Official

Date

Signature of Senior Official or designee

**Oscar Morales, Director
Collection Strategies Division
Office of Environmental Information**

Date

Certification Requirement for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

5 CFR 1320.9 reads “As part of the agency submission to OMB of a proposed collection of information, the agency (through the head of the agency, the Senior Official or their designee) shall certify (and provide a record supporting such certification) that the proposed collection of information --

“(a) is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including that the information to be collected will have practical utility;

“(b) is not unnecessarily duplicative of information otherwise reasonably accessible to the agency;

“(c) reduces to the extent practicable and appropriate the burden on persons who shall provide information to or for the agency, including with respect to small entities, as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act 5 U.S.C § 601(6)), the use of such techniques as:

“(1) establishing differing compliance or reporting requirements or timetables that take into account the resources available to those who are to respond;

“(2) the clarification, consolidation, or simplification of compliance and reporting requirements; or collection of information , or any part thereof;

“(3) an exemption from coverage of the collection of information, or any part thereof;

“(d) is written using plain, coherent, and unambiguous terminology and is understandable to those who are to respond;

“(e) is to be implemented in ways consistent and compatible, to the maximum extent practicable, with the existing reporting and recordkeeping practices of those who are to respond;

“(f) indicates for each recordkeeping requirement the length of time persons are required to maintain the records specified;

“(g) informs potential respondents of the information called for under § 1320.8(b)(3); [see below]

“(h) has been developed by an office that has planned and allocated resources for the efficient and effective management and use of the information to be collected, including the processing of the information in a manner which shall enhance, where appropriate, the utility of the information to agencies and the public;

“(I) uses effective and efficient statistical survey methodology appropriate to the purpose for which the information is to be collected; and

“(j) to the maximum extent practicable, uses appropriate information technology to reduce burden and improve data quality, agency efficiency and responsiveness to the public.”

NOTE: 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3) requires that each collection of information:

“(3) informs and provides reasonable notice to the potential persons to whom the collection of information is addressed of:

“(I) the reasons the information is planned to be and/or has been used to further the proper performance of the functions of the agency;

“(ii) the way such information is planned to be and/or has been used to further the proper performance of the functions of the agency;

“(iii) an estimate, to the extent practicable, of the average burden of the collection (together with a request that the public direct to the agency any comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden);

“(iv) whether responses to the collection of information are voluntary, required to obtain or retain a benefit (citing authority), or mandatory (citing authority);

“(v) the nature and extent of confidentiality to be provided, if any (citing authority); and

“(vi) the fact that any agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.”